

## Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-10

SCI-06 OMB-01 SS-20 L-03 H-03 AGR-20 HEW-08 MED-03

PRS-01 PA-04 DRC-01 /158 W

----- 129185

R 170911Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2765

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM

AMCONSUL ROTTERDAM

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 0247

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, NL

SUBJ: NETHERLANDS DRUG POLICY; GON NOTE TO PARLIAMENT

SUMMARY: GON HAS SUBMITTED TO SECOND CHAMBER LONG-AWAITED  
NOTE OUTLINING ITS VIEWS ON NARCOTICS POLICY. GOVERNMENT INTENDS  
TO REDUCE USE AND POSSESSION FOR USE OF CANNABIS FROM SERIOUS  
(MISDRIJF) TO LESSER OFFENSE ("OVERTREDING") AND TO DEVELOP  
SEPARATE POLICIES WITH RESPECT TO SOFT DRUGS ON ONE HAND AND  
HARD DRUGS ON OTHER. IN RECOGNITION OF OBLIGATION UNDER SINGLE  
CONVENTION, HOWEVER, NOTE SAYS GON DOES NOT NOW PROPOSE TO REMOVE  
CONSUMPTION OF CANNABIS FROM PENAL CODE ALTOGETHER BUT  
WILL ENTER INTO "INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATIONS" AIMED AT  
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DETERMINING POSSIBILITIES OF AMENDING SINGLE CONVENTION SO AS

TO PERMIT PARTIES TO PURSUE INDEPENDENT NATIONAL POLICIES WITH RESPECT TO HEMP PRODUCTS. END SUMMARY.

1. GON HAS SUBMITTED NOTE ON NARCOTICS POLICY TO SECOND CHAMBER HEALTH COMITE. NOTE, SIGNED BY HEALTH MINISTER, JUSTICE MINISTER, AND STATE SECY FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS, INDICATES GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO DOWNGRADE CONSUMPTION OF AND POSSESSION FOR CONSUMPTION OF CANNABIS PRODUCTS FROM SERIOUS OFFENSE (MISDRIJF) TB LESSER OFFENSE (OVERTREDING) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (MIN HEALTH OFFICIAL HAS INDICATED TO EMBASSY THAT USE OF TERM "CANNABID PRODUCTS" IS INTENDED TO INCLUDE MARIHUANA AND HASHISH BUT EXCLUDES MORE POTENT DERIVATIVES SUCH AS HASH OIL). NOTE ALSO INDICATES THAT GON FEELS CONSUMPTION/POSSESSION FOR CONSUMPTION OF HEMP PRODUCTS OUGHT TO BE REMOVED ENTIRELY FROM SPHERE OF CRIMINAL LAW, BUT FEELS CONSTAINED FROM SO DOING BECAUSE OF OBLIGATIONS IMPOSED BY SINGLE CONVENTION. HOWEVER, GON INTENDS TO ENTER INTO "INTERNALTIONAL CONSULTATIONS" TO EXAMINE POSSIBILITIES OF AMENDING SINGLE CONVENTION SO THAT STATES PARTIES THERETO MAY BE FREE TO PURSUE WHATEVER NATIONAL POLICIES ARE DEEMED APPROPRIATE WITH RESPECT TO CANNABIS PRODUCTS.

2. NOTE ALSO INDICATES GON'S INTENTION TO DIFFERENTIATE TRAFFIC IN SOFT DRUGS FROM TRAFFIC IN DRUGS WITH "UNACCEPTABLE RISKS" BY PROVIDING FOR STRONGER PENALTIES IN CONNECTION WITH LATTER THAN ARE POSSIBLE AT PRESENT WHILE REDUCING POSSIBLE PENALTIES IN CASE OF SOFT DRUGS. GON WOULD ALSO MOVE TO IMPLEMENT PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT RECOMMENDATIONS THAT TRAFFIC IN AMPHETAMINES, WHICH NOW CONTROLLED ONLY BY IMPORT-EXPORT AND MEDICINES LEGISLATION, BUT NOT BY OPIUM LAW (THE NETHERLANDS' BASIC NARCOTICS PENAL LEGISLATION), BE SUBJECT TO CRIMINAL SANCTIONS.

3. NOTE ALSO RECOGNIZES SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN HEROIN TRADE IN LAST TWO YEARS; SPEAKS OF INCREASING THE LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE AT COMMUNITY LEVEL TO ABUSERS AND PROPOSES RESEARCH INTO EFFECTS OF CANNABIS USE ON ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY, INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT OF SEROLOGICAL TESTS.

4. HEALTH COMITE IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN CONSIDERATION OF GON NOTE BY END OF JANUARY. PUBLIC HEARING IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 8 AT UNCLASSIFIED

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WHICH INTERESTED GROUPS MAY PRESENT VIEWS ON SUBJECT.

5. COPIES OF GON NOTE BEING POUCHED DEPT. GOULD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NARCOTICS, HEROIN, DRUG CONTROL, DRUG TRAFFIC, MARIJUANA  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 JAN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974THEHA00247  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 FEB 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NETHERLANDS DRUG POLICY; GON NOTE TO PARLIAMENT SUMMARY: GON HAS SUBMITTED TO SECOND CHAMBER LONG-AWAITED  
**TAGS:** SNAR, NL  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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